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Economic and Social Council

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Resumed organizational session for 1992

ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Note by the Secretary-General

1. On 2 October 1991, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale to all Member States informing them that the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed organizational session for 1992, will be called upon to appoint three members to serve on the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), when the term of office of three members expires on 30 June 1992. By the same note verbale, the Secretary-General requested Governments to submit the names and curricula vitae of candidates not later than 31 January 1992.

2. Under the provision of the statute of the Institute, the Board of Trustees is composed of 11 members nominated by States and appointed by the Economic and Social Council, with due regard to the fact that the Institute and its work are funded from voluntary contributions and to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. Members of the Board serve in their individual capacities for a term of three years from the date of appointment. They are eligible for reappointment by the Council for one further term. The current membership of the Board is given in annex I.

3. At its first regular session of 1983, the Council, on the proposal of the President, decided to maintain the existing de facto geographical balance of the Board without prejudice to any further decision the Council might wish to take with regard to the composition of the Board and the distribution of seats on it (see E/1983/SR.13). Accordingly, in order to maintain the existing geographical balance, the vacancies should be filled by the appointment of one member from the three regional groups concerned.

4. The following candidates were nominated by their Governments in response to the Secretary-General's note verbale. Biographical information on the candidates is contained in annex II.

African States

Ihsan Abdalla Algabshawi (Sudan)

Latin American States

Aida González Martínez (Mexico)

Western European and other States

Necla Arat (Turkey)
Rena Lampsa (Greece)
Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands)

Annex I

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Membership from 1 July 1991

	Term expires on 30 June
Pilar Escario Rodríguez-Spiteri (Spain)	1993
Penelope Ruth Fenwick (New Zealand)*	1992
Fátima B. Hassar (Morocco)	1994
Gule Afruz Mahbub (Bangladesh)	1994
Gertrude Ibengwe Mongella (United Republic of Tanzania)	1993
Victoria N. Okobi (Nigeria)*	1992
Virginia Olivo de Celli (Venezuela)*	1992
Amara Pongsapich (Thailand)	1993
D. Gail Saunders (Bahamas)	1994
Renata Siemienska-Zochowska (Poland)	1994
Kristin Tornes (Norway)	1994

* Retiring member.

Annex II

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Ihsan Abdalla Alqabshawi (Sudan). Acting head of the Documentation-Research and Statistics Centre, Commissioner for Refugees. Previously, served as documentation officer and translator. Has also worked in the area of refugees and displaced persons and their impact on Sudanese society. Author of various publications on library and information services and establishing of documentation centres. Participated in a number of conferences and seminars related to development of libraries, use of new techniques in data processing. Also participated in conferences and advisory panel concerning refugees and displaced persons.

Necla Arat (Turkey). Founder and first Director of the Women's Research and Education Centre, University of Istanbul. Concurrently Professor of Philosophy and Chairperson of the Systematic Philosophy Unit. Member of various research and education associations. Published numerous articles on philosophy of culture, secularism, equal rights and women's issues. Responsible for the organization of a number of seminars and meetings at the national and international levels on issues related to women, such as women in politics, education of women and girls in Turkey and "gender studies".

Aida González Martínez (Mexico). Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Formerly, Chief Director on Migration and Human Rights. Has held a variety of government positions, such as General Assistant Director for International Organizations, Department of Foreign Affairs, General Director of International Affairs, Department of Labour and Social Welfare. Since 1964, has participated as a delegate of Mexico in various international forums of the Organization of American States and of the United Nations. Was Liaison Officer between the Government of Mexico and the United Nations for the International Women's Year. Was a representative of Mexico to the Commission on the Status of Women and a member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Member of the Board of the International Institute for Labour Studies; elected Chairman of the ILO Governing Body for the period 1978-1981 and re-elected for the period 1981-1984. Has been honoured by the Governments of a number of countries.

Rena Lampsa (Greece). General Secretary for Equality between Women and Men of the Ministry to the Presidency. A journalist by profession, has worked with the World University Service and been actively involved in the women's movement at both the national and international levels. As an activist, has participated in many international and national conferences, seminars, television and radio programmes concerned with women's issues. Member of the Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men of the Council of Europe and member of the UNESCO National Committee for Women's Issues.

Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands). Professor appointed by the Leiden University Fund in Social Sciences. Has vast teaching experience at the university level. Main themes of her extensive research have been women and development issues and literature and society. Has participated in numerous international conferences and presented papers on various themes related to issues of women and development, including environment. Member of the National Advisory Council on Development Cooperation; Chair of three successive working groups which produced reports for the Minister for Development Cooperation; member and co-founder of the Council of Women (Netherlands Development Agencies); member of the steering group of the Indo-Dutch Programme for Alternatives in Development; Vice-chair of the National Advisory Council on Development Cooperation. Author of numerous publications in English and Dutch.